

BX6716

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JUSTIFICATION

These missions are in response to the USIB requirement for high resolution photographic coverage of priority targets in North Vietnam. Specifically, the OXCART aircraft is to cover those areas of North Vietnam which because of surface-to-air missile defenses cannot be covered adequately by other means. The 303 Committee has approved these missions.

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OPERATIONAL DATA BX6716

DISTANCE : 4696 NM
TIME :: 3: 49
DENIED TIME : 0: 20
ENTRY ALTITUDE: 79,000 FT
SPEED : 3.1 (1800KTS)
TAKE OFF : 21/ 0235Z
LOCAL : 20/ 2235L

VULNERABILITY ESTIMATE

AT THE PRESENT TIME 234 SURFACE TO AIR MISSILE
LAUNCH POSITIONS HAVE BEEN DETECTED IN NORTH VIETNAM.
HOWEVER, THERE ARE ONLY ABOUT 28 TO 32 ACTIVE SITES ON
ANY GIVEN DAY. THEY ARE LARGELY CONCENTRATED IN THE
HANOI, HAIPHONG, THANH HOA AREA. [REDACTED]

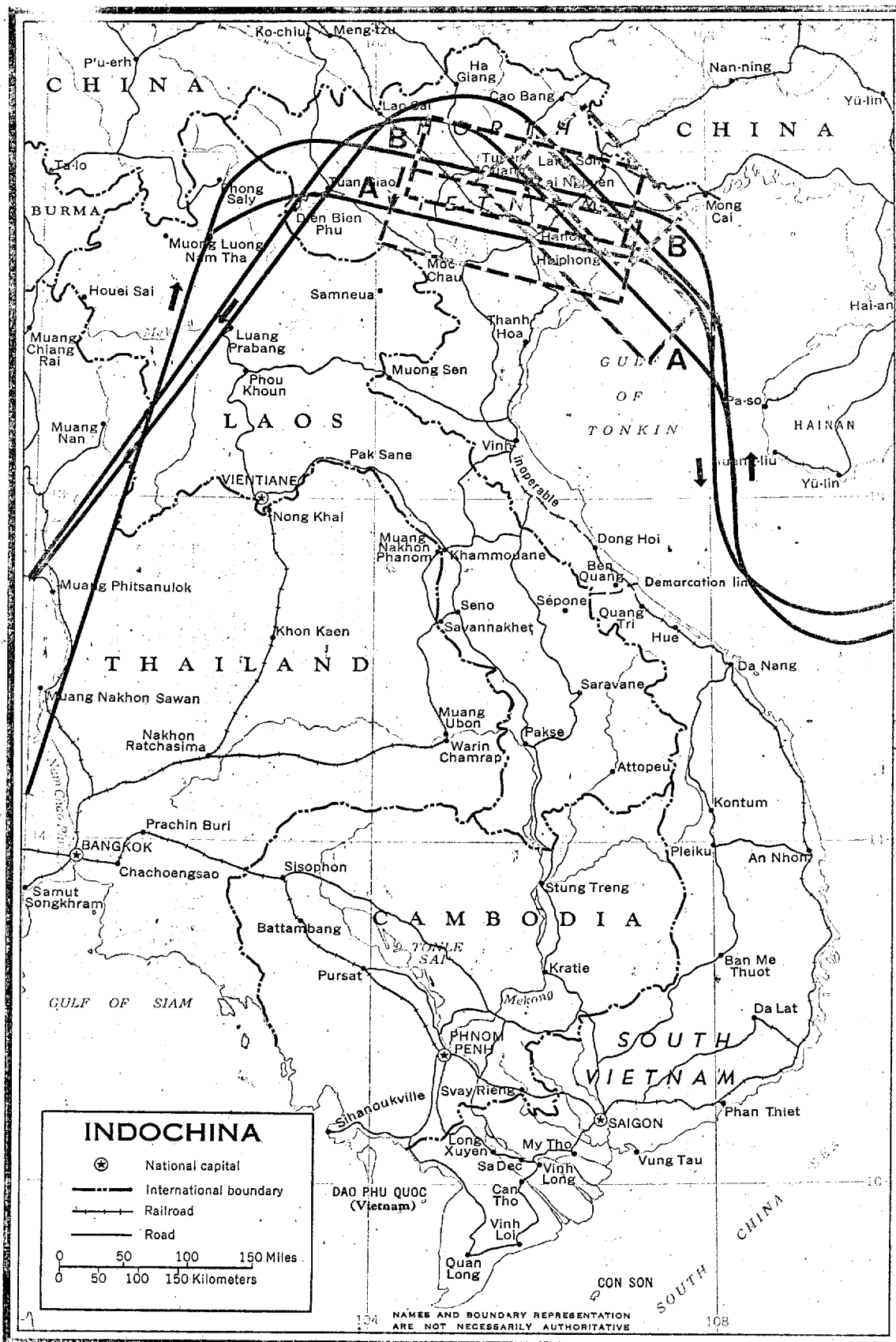
25X1D

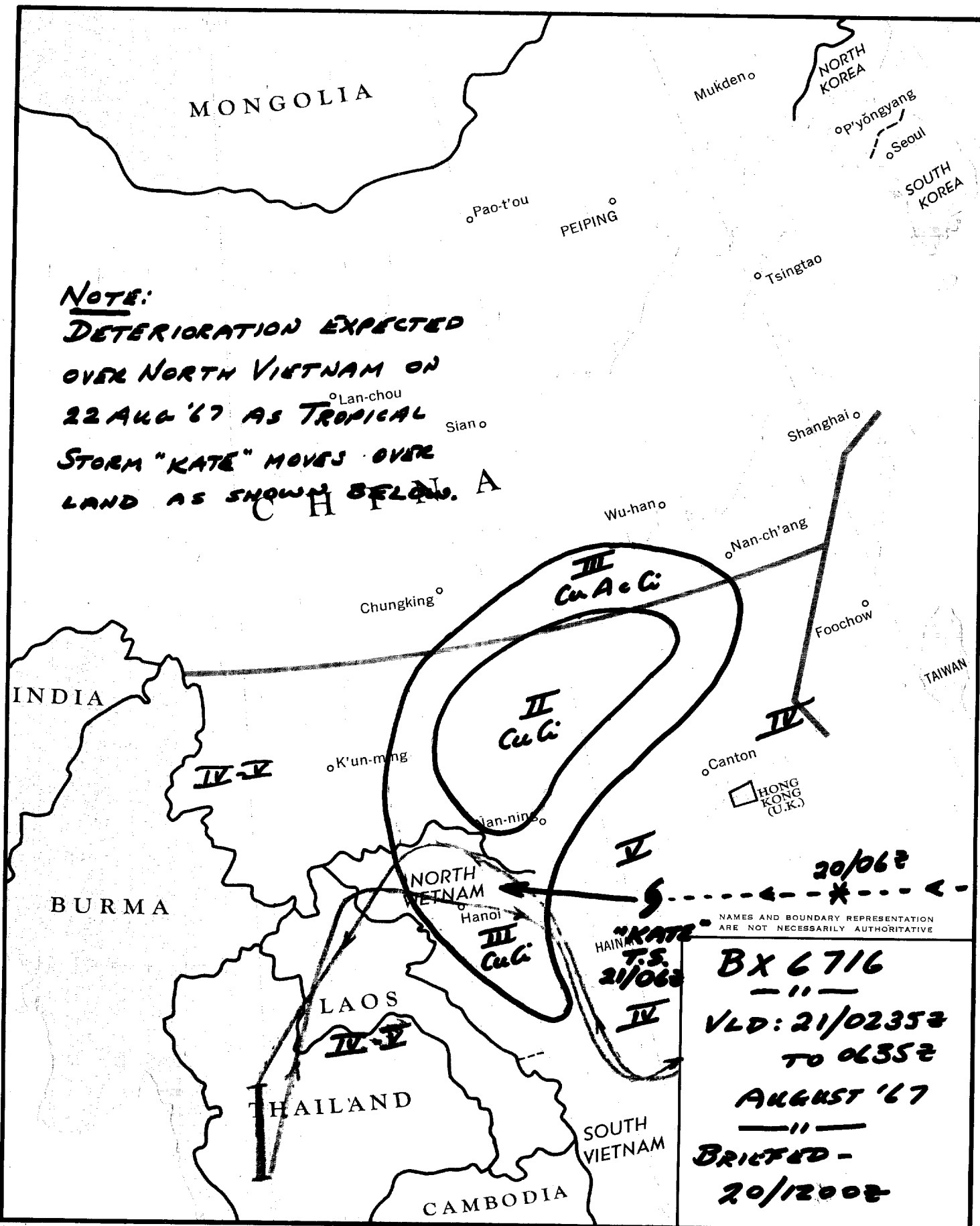
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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] THERE ARE SEVEN MIG-21 JET FIGHTERS
IN NORTH VIETNAM BUT THEY ARE NOT CAPABLE OF INTERCEPT--
ING THE OXCART AIRCRAFT.

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TOP SECRET
OXCART

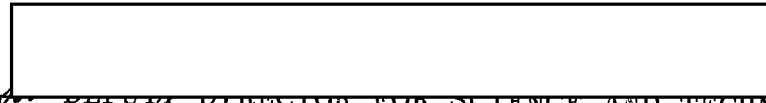
THE OXCART MISSION BX 6716 AS PLANNED HEREIN
IS APPROVED.

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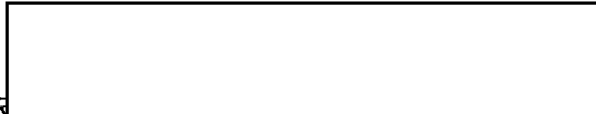
DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

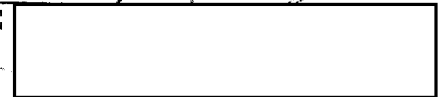
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Telephone coordination 1200 20 Aug 67
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OPERATIONAL DATA

DISTANCE : ~~5831~~ NM 5876 NM

TIME : ~~5+02~~ 4+56

DENIED TIME : 0+22

ENTRY ALTITUDE: 80,000 FT

SPEED : Mach 3.1 (1825 Kts)

TAKE OFF : ~~0210Z~~ 14 August 1967 0240Z 31 AUGUST 1967
1010 PM Washington Time 13 August 1967
1040 30 AUGUST 1967

VULNERABILITY ESTIMATE

A total of 23² surface-to air missile launch positions have been detected in North Vietnam. The number of usable sites, however, is somewhat less than this. Only about 28 to 32 sites are active on any given day--even this number may be high. They are largely concentrated in the Hanoi, Haiphong, Thanh Hoa, and Yen Bai area. [REDACTED]

25X1D

[REDACTED] There are seven MIG-21 jet interceptors in North Vietnam but they are not capable of intercepting the OXCART aircraft.